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Dec 5 11 35 PM '62

ACTION: AMEmbassy PARIS 2898 PRIORITY

FOR AMBASSADOR

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unofficial translation

Following is ~~text~~ of letter of December 1, to President

from De Gaulle. Appreciate soonest your comments.

QUOTE

Dear Mr. President:

The messages which were handed over to me on your behalf by your Ambassador, on the 20th and 22nd of November, have kept me largely informed of ~~the~~ the state of affairs concerning Cuba and of the way you were then contemplating to pursue the action undertaken by the United States. ~~It~~ I thank you for those explanations. Besides, the events which have occurred since have, in my view, continued to justify your anticipations as well as your decisions, particularly as far as the withdrawal of the soviet bombers is concerned.

As long as this affair is limited to a settlement of the direct threat the Soviets are raising against your country from the Cuban territory, France, as I have already had the honor

S/S:EWG:ar:ldp 12/5/62

Telegraphic Transmission and  
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S/S-Mr. *[Signature]*

White House - *[Signature]* Bundy

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the honor of stating in writing to you, has not had, and has not the intention to intervene directly, unless, of course, America were actually attacked and a world conflict should result; for, in that hypothesis, France would be at war at the side of the United States.

If the events of Cuba developed to the point of involving other subjects and other areas of the world where the policy and the security of France would be affected, like, for example, the question of Berlin or the question of disarmament, it is understood that France would not approve, and still less implement, any measure which she, for her own part, would not have negotiated nor decided. I must add that, regarding East-West relations in general and the two subjects I have just mentioned in particular, the whole international situation does not hold, in the view of my Government, any possibility for a satisfactory settlement, notwithstanding the relative respite which may have appeared for the moment in the recent state of tension, as a consequence of the temporary set-back of the Soviets in the Cuban affair. It is not of course the various soundings and openings in which Moscow seems engaged at present, without any change in its fundamental position, which are likely to bring about a modification

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in the position of France.

I am, dear Mr. President,

Very cordially yours,

C. de Gaulle UNQUOTE

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